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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE, AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS

1. (Original) A plastics processing machine for producing fiber-containing thermoplastics, comprising:

an extruder;

a scale assembly having a weighing plate for determining an amount of fiber to be supplied to the extruder; and

a fiber feeding device for supply of fiber material from a take-off unit to the extruder, said fiber feeding device including a first fiber guide unit, which is securely fixed to the weighing plate, for removing the fibers from the takeoff unit, and a second fiber guide unit which is decoupled from the weighing plate and so constructed as to route the fibers between the first and second guide units in a substantially perpendicular relationship to a gravitational force.

- (Original) The plastics processing machine of claim 1, wherein the first fiber guide unit includes at least one deflecting element for deflecting a fiber takeoff direction by less than 180°.
- (Original) The plastics processing machine of claim 1, wherein the first fiber guide unit includes at least two deflecting elements for deflecting a fiber take-off direction by about 90° or less.
- 4. (Original) The plastics processing machine of claim 2, wherein the deflecting element is constructed as a rod oriented in substantial perpendicular relationship to the fiber take-off direction.
- 5. (Original) The plastics processing machine of claim 4, wherein the rod is made of ceramics.

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6. (Original) The plastics processing machine of claim 4, wherein the rod has a surface made of ceramics.

- 7. (Original) The plastics processing machine of claim 2, wherein the deflecting element is constructed as a roller.
- 8. (Original) The plastics processing machine of claim 7, wherein the roller has a rolling surface made of ceramics.
- (Original) The plastics processing machine of claim 1, wherein the take-off unit is a member selected from the group consisting of spool, drum and roving.
- 10. (Canceled)
- 11. (Canceled)
- 12. (Previously presented) In combination:

a scale assembly; and

a fiber feeding device for transporting fiber material from the scale assembly to an extruder, said fiber feeding device comprising:

a first fiber guide unit securely fixed to the scale assembly and drawing fibers in a substantially vertical direction in opposition to a gravitational force, and

a second fiber guide unit which is decoupled from the scale assembly and constructed such that the fibers travel between the first and second guide units in a substantially perpendicular relationship to the gravitational force.

13. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 12, wherein the first fiber guide unit includes a frame mounted to the scale assembly, and a deflection assembly mounted to the frame for deflecting a travel of the fiber by less than 180°.